INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

October 1, 2012

Council Chamber, 8th Floor

CONVENE: 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Elle Cochran, Chair

Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Vice-Chair (out 10:09 a.m., in 10:17 a.m., out 10:30

a.m., in 10:33 a.m.)

Councilmember Robert Carroll (out 9:01 a.m., in 9:35 a.m.)

Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr. (in 9:32 a.m.) Councilmember Danny A. Mateo (in (9:32 a.m.)

Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla

EXCUSED: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember G. Riki Hokama

STAFF: Scott Jensen, Legislative Analyst

Yvette Bouthillier, Committee Secretary

ADMIN.: Kyle Ginoza, Director, Department of Environmental Management

Michael J. Hopper, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

PRESS: Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.

CHAIR COCHRAN: ...(gavel)... Aloha, good morning. The meeting of the Infrastructure Management Committee will now convene. And I am your Councilmember... Chair of the Committee Elle Cochran, and Members, thank you for being here. Aloha. And at this point we were called away for a little bit and I am going to call a real... brief, a 30 minute recess. It's about 9 o'clock and we'll reconvene this meeting at 9:30. We are now in recess. ...(gavel)...

RECESS: 9:01 a.m. RECONVENE: 9:32 a.m.

ITEM NO. 11(1): COMMITTEE'S PRIORITIES AND PROCEDURES;

PRESENTATIONS FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE

AGENCIES (ORIENTATION WORKSHOP BY THE DEPARTMENT

OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT)

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CHAIR COCHRAN: ...(gavel)... Aloha and welcome back. This is the Infrastructure Management Committee meeting on October 1, 2012 and current time is about 9:34 a.m. Members, thank you for coming back, and at this point let me introduce who returned. I have...I'll just go down the row here with Vice-Chair of the Council...Joseph Pontanilla.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Good morning.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Good morning. And Vice-Chair of this Committee, Michael Victorino.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Good morning, Madam Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Good morning. Donald Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Good morning, Madam Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Good morning. And Chair of the Council, Danny Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Good morning. And rolling in is Bob Carroll. Good morning, Mr. Carroll. Right now, I'll. . .let me introduce Administration officials. I have Kyle Ginoza, Director of Environmental Management. Good morning, Kyle. Deputy Corporation Counsel, Michael Hopper.

MR. HOPPER: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: And Committee Staff, Legislative Analyst, Scott Jensen and Committee Secretary, Yvette Bouthillier. Good morning.

MS. BOUTHILLIER: Good Morning.

CHAIR COCHRAN: At this point, the floor is. . .I will open the floor shortly for public testimony. And Ms. Bouthillier, do we have testifiers signed up? Seeing none, Members, without objections I shall now close the floor for testimony.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you. At this point, let me move on then. Introduction of the items...actually, it's one item. Today is...it relates to the priorities and procedures of the Department of Environmental Management. The Department had requested this opportunity to update our Committee in July following the budget discussions in order to better ensure that they are adequately considering the policy directors of the Council. Since the July 30th meeting, the Director of Environmental Management communicated that the Central Maui Landfill land

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purchase was a top priority for the remaining months of this year, 2012. I requested that the Department be here today to further discuss this priority item. In addition, the Director will be updating this Committee on both waste conversion, the waste-to-energy, and the status of the curbside recycling pilot program in South Maui. I appreciate Kyle's presence here today, thank you, and his preparation of today's presentation. So IM-11 (1), Committee's Priorities and Procedures; Presentations from County Administration Agencies, an Orientation Workshop by the Department of Environmental Management. This item relates to an orientation workshop by DEM. As I previously stated, the Department last reviewed the organization of the Department in current efforts in wastewater reclamation in Solid Waste Management at the meeting of July 30th, 2012. Today we have with us, DEM management to present this update and respond to any questions that Members may have. Mr. Director, would you like to make any introductory remarks prior to your PowerPoint?

MR. GINOZA: Oh, no. I'd just like to start off with my PowerPoint.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay. Sounds good. So, Members, right now I shall recess for a brief moment to set the room for Mr. Ginoza's PowerPoint. We are now in recess. . . (gavel). . .

RECESS: 9:36 a.m. RECONVENE: 9:37 a.m.

CHAIR COCHRAN: ...(gavel)... Hi, welcome back. This Infrastructure Management Committee will now reconvene. And we have Director of Environmental Management Kyle Ginoza. Mr. Ginoza. You ready?

MR. GINOZA: (PowerPoint presentation) I'm just waiting for it to warm up.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Oh, okay. Screen is warming up. Thank you.

MR. GINOZA: Good morning, Chair Cochran and Members of the Infrastructure Committee. My name is Kyle Ginoza and I'm here before you today to provide further orientation on our current efforts and aspects of the Department of Environmental Management.

Specifically today I'd like to go over three recent and eminent landfill waste diversion initiatives. By diversion, I mean efforts to minimize the quantity of waste that we landfill into the earth. The three initiatives are as follows: first, a 28 acre land purchase at the Central Maui Landfill; second, the residential curbside recycling pilot program; and third, the waste conversion project. Through these and other diversion activities, the life of the Central Maui Landfill can be substantially extended. So I'd like to start off with the status of the land purchase of the 28 acres adjacent to and makai of the Central Maui Landfill which fronts Pulehu Road. We have funding through the Fiscal Year 2012 Capital Improvement Program to acquire lands for a solid waste facility in this area. The Department seeks to purchase the land for a possible combination of the following: a materials recovery facility or MRF, a construction and demolition MRF, an abandoned vehicle facility, a waste conversion facility, and/or a landfill warehousing facility for

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equipment. The Department has laid out where these potential facilities would piece together and would like to have a more in-depth discussion with this Committee at a later date. The Department recently cooperated on a draft purchase agreement with Alexander & Baldwin, and while we have the funding budgeted, the Department needs Council approval to purchase the land. The Department transmitted the draft agreement and the draft resolution to the Council last week Friday. So the full Council should receive it, I guess this week. Next, I would like to present the status of the curbside residential recycling pilot program that was budgeted for this year. The pilot program commenced in mid-August along two routes in Kihei. One route was in Central, sorry, Central Kihei on one day and one route is in Maui Meadows on the next day. While the pilot program has been in operation for only a month and a half thus far, it is positive that the contamination rate has been low. By contamination rate, I mean the amount of garbage that is thrown into the mixed recyclable bins by residence. That shows that the Department outreach efforts have been successful and the residents have been quite diligent in their participation. I'll go over a little bit more specific data on the next slide. The Department anticipates that the residential dropbox collection program will realize a drop in rate, such as like the one in the Kihei park where we have dropboxes, because of the curbside program. Regarding the greenways portion of the curbside pilot program, there's also low contamination in the form of plastic bags and other plastics as well. After the first five or six months of collecting data, we'll be able to see what net increase in recycling there will be from the curbside program versus the dropbox program. So what I did was I pulled the data from the last drop. So this is the third mixed recyclable drop for Central Kihei on one day and Maui Meadows on the following, sorry, Maui, yeah, Maui Meadows on the following day. So as you can see theirs on the order of 12 to 15 percent contamination which is quite a bit under the...roughly 20 to 25 percent that is typically seen early in the program rollout. So it's quite positive that people aren't throwing their trash in the mixed recyclable bins. And once we're able to obtain the recycling dropboxes tonnage, we'll be able to compute the net increase in recycling for the curbside recycling program. And as you can see in these two tables, let's see, cardboard, newspaper, super mix, which is mixed paper. . . mixed papers, yeah, and newspaper comprise the bulk of the materials being recycled. You can see it's roughly, what, like maybe 70 percent of what is being recycled. So this is the total sorted rates that we received on each of these days so roughly just under six tons per day. The final initiative that I would like to go over today is the status of the waste conversion project. As you may recall from one of our previous meetings, Maui has. . . Maui is at roughly 30 percent...30 plus percent landfill diversion. One way to significantly increase diversion is through implementation of a waste conversion project, a project where less than 10 percent of inert waste from municipal solid waste or MSW ends up being landfilled. It is not uncommon that there is 80 to 90 percent landfill diversion through a waste conversion project. The waste conversion process is one where various streams...various waste streams including municipal solid waste, green waste, sewage sludge or biosolids, and fats, oils, and grease or FOG may be processed and converted into renewable energy or some other fuel source. As a point of reference, waste conversion is very main stream in Europe where organics and high calorific wastes are prohibited in landfills. Maui can follow up Europe's and the rest of the world's lead in landfill diversion through waste conversion. I'd like to give a little more information on the process of waste conversion. One of the first steps after collection of the municipal solid waste is for the MSW to be shredded, to be of manageable size for processing. After shredding this

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municipal solid waste or MSW, the MSW is termed. . . and a little bit more processing, the MSW is termed refuse derived fuel. You may have heard of refuse derived fuel or RDF. Some plants use the raw RDF as a fuel source to generate electricity or others further process the refuse derived fuel to develop a cleaner fuel source through such processes as gasification, you may have heard of. RDF based gasification plants have excellent operating history throughout the world. These plants also have very good emissions profiles, and the environmental benefits are well documented. Over last couple decades, waste conversion technology has yielded projects with strong environmental benefits as compared to the more traditional waste-to-energy massed. . . mass waste incineration of 30 years ago. Anaerobic digestion of degradable organics is another well-established waste conversion solution. Overall, waste conversion facilities have proven to be very clean and have been designed for aesthetic appeal and to avoid nuisance odor issues. In addition, the degree of automation at these facilities is very high. In addition to landfill diversion benefits, waste conversion produces firm renewable energy or fuel, which could be used for base load power for Maui Electric and would further reduce our dependence on the importation of fossil fuels to the island. This flow chart which I showed before basically...at a previous meeting that I thought I'd bring up again, illustrates the basic waste conversion cycle that typically occurs. So waste...we start off here. Waste conversion basically starts in receiving the municipal solid waste or MSW. Sometimes it's stored if it's...if more than that can be processed as needed. Then we go through a sorting a process...a recycling process where the high value recyclables are taken out in the front end. And then I had mentioned there's a shredding process or size reduction process to basically take the bigger items of the waste stream into a more manageable size for use, you know, on the order of maybe seven inches or less in some cases. And then what it...from that what is called refuse derived fuel or RDF is produced. Like I mentioned, some plants actually just burn the RDF, so like the first two phases of H-Power in Honolulu burns the RDF in order to create energy. Other processes are such processes as gasification which takes in the RDF and then produces a gas which would then be stored and then used for power generation. So in this process where I put gasification process...also you may have heard other things like plasma arc or puralysis or just plain gasification. That's basically this step which uses different kinds of processes to create a gas for power generation. One byproduct of this process is ash which will need to be landfilled. And depending on the process, a lot of processes have under 10 percent of the inert waste from the MSW that becomes the ash. So that's where you get the 90 percent reduction in what is landfilled, because you still do have some material that needs to be landfilled. So this is kind of the basic process of you take in the raw waste, you do some sorting to take out the high value materials, you shred it down to a manageable size, you do...you then either use that for the energy generation process or you then do another step to create a gas to be used in energy generation. Some plants also take the gas and instead of just burning it through generators to create electricity, they also then utilize that gas to create some kind of alternative fuel such as, you know, LNG liquefied, natural gas, or CNG, or diesel. So there's a variety of options that's available that we need to kind of see as a County which might be appropriate for our community. The other process that I had mentioned is anaerobic digestion process which typically handles more of the organic materials...the degradable organic materials in the waste stream. These are like the wetter materials which, you know, as you can imagine with the RDF, you want a drier process in the previous slide, this one can be a wetter process. So this is where there's an input

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of degradable organics such as green waste or the sewage sludge or any kind of biosolids which we. . . which would be then put in a anaerobic digester which is basically like one or two tanks where it can be further processed. And what happens is as the anaerobic bacteria eats away at that input, it creates a biogas such as methane which could then be used to run an engine to power a generator and create electricity. The byproduct of that engine is heat. We can try to recover that heat to either have hot water which is an input to the anaerobic digestion process or some other auxiliary use. In the mainland, they use it for heating of homes or heating of industrial uses, but in our case I think we'd do a combined heat and power or some kind of CHP engine which would basically increase the efficiency of this process using the steam generated here. But anyway, that's another process that may be used in waste conversion. The byproduct of the anaerobic digester is liquid affluent or a slurry, you know, kind of solid liquid slurry which could then be landfilled. So this is kind of speeding up the process that's happening in our landfill, where over time in our landfill anaerobic bacteria eat away at the waste stream and produce methane gas. That's how our landfill gas-to-energy project gets gas so this is just having a separate project, separate from putting it into the landfill. So I'd like to kind of go over how we've structured the RFP that we're developing for the waste conversion project. Basically, we're seeking a developer to finance, plan, design, build, own, and operate a facility. The reason why we structured it this way is because of the inherent risk associated with implementing a waste conversion project. You know, we'd like for the developer to have another entity also to be able to vet out, you know, the nature of the technology, you know...we gonna ask for a number of reference facilities so we know we're not the guinea pigs for the conversion technology because it is a. . . an emerging technology. The County of Maui would not pay the capital cost of implementation and the developer would recoup its cost through the tipping fees, the energy and/or fuel revenue, and whatever recyclable material revenue they get from that presort or postsort. So what the County would be kind of on the hook for is the County would lease a 10 acre or so portion of its lands at the Central Maui Landfill for the waster conversion facility. It'd be nice to collocate the facility near the landfill, because as I mentioned there will be materials that would still need to be landfilled. The County would also guarantee sending the municipal solid waste and other waste streams to the facility for 20 years. The Department would also like to enact some flow control legislation through the Council where, basically it's a law that the waste must go through the County. And I didn't put on this slide, but next month the Department anticipates holding a series of public meetings to gain input on the waste conversion effort. You know, in any kind of large project like this, you know, community input is very important. So before we go into the next stage of talking about the proposals, I'd like to be able to inform this body of how the public has...feels about a project such as this one. But as you can see based on the commitments required on the County side, the County would shoulder quite minimal risk for the project. So this slide basically shows how we are proceeding with the Department's efforts. So we have this input of municipal solid waste or the various waste streams. So where we are now is we're developing the RFP and we'll have it due around the end of the year so that at the beginning of next year, we'll have that option for this body to contemplate whether or not some sort of waste conversion project is in the cards for the County in the near term. So in, you know, February of next year, I hope that we can have a further discussion...a follow-up discussion on this where we decide whether we should pursue something along the lines of waste conversion to try to create a renewable energy source, or we

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find out that it's not economical or it's not in the cards for us and then we just concentrate on our current efforts which is as far as the waste stream which is landfilling, curbside recycling, you know, seeing how we further expand that program, seeing how we deal with the residential dropboxes like you see at MCC or at other areas in the County, as well as looking at the organics diversion through what is now the composting program. So basically, in the early Calendar Year 2013 timeframe, the Department will have this menu of options for us to discuss to see how we move forward as a County as far as the disposition of our waste streams. So to summarize, the 28 acre land purchase is a priority for the Department and the funding for the purchase expires at the end of December, this year. As I mentioned, last week Friday, we transmitted the draft resolution and agreement to the Council. Secondly, the curbside recycling program has been going well thus far and we'll have analysis of the program early next year. Department is close to completing the waste conversion RFP which will be issued toward the end of this month. Therefore, as I mentioned I'd like to have a meeting with this Committee to discuss recycling efforts and the waste conversion proposal in February of next year so that we can discuss budgetary priorities for the Department in Fiscal Year '14. So, you know, by issuing this, this waste conversion RFP, it will no. . .in no way lock the County into, you know, one way or the other, but we want to get hard data in order to present to you as far as having a definitive proposal for us to decide whether or not to go forward with something like that. So thank you very much and I guess we can get the screen up, and I'm here to answer any questions you may have.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you very much, Director Ginoza. Members, we shall now have a brief recess to raise the screen and reset the room. We are now in recess. . . (gavel). . .

RECESS: 9:57 a.m. RECONVENE: 9:58 a.m.

CHAIR COCHRAN: ...(gavel)... Infrastructure Management Committee meeting will now reconvene. And thank you, Mr. Ginoza, for the presentation.

MR. GINOZA: You welcome.

CHAIR COCHRAN: I shall now open the floor--Mr. Victorino you have a question?--

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Yeah.

CHAIR COCHRAN: --for questions and answers for Director.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Okay, Madam Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Yes, Mr. Victorino.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: First of all Director, I want to thank you very much for that insightful presentation. I think --

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MR. GINOZA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: --it really helps the public and us to understand the direction that you are taking your Department. I know you want us to, you know, fund and to also guide you, you know, in this respect, but I think you've done an awesome job so I wanna --

MR. GINOZA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: --congratulate you and your Department, your engineers, and all of those who have put this presentation together. Some of the. . .and there's lots of questions so I gotta give everybody a chance. I'm gonna ask a couple and then if my questions are not heard later then I'll come back. One of the ones that hit me right away is when you said, we the County would own the waste or we have to go through. . .your quote was, "all the waste has to go through the County", that was your quote. And so I wanted clarification because we have a lot of private vendors out there that do. . .hotels, condominiums, and our. . .we're not capable of going into these areas. So I'm asking you, what does that mean? So that public understand when you say "all the waste must go through the County".

MR. GINOZA: Thank you for the question. May I?

CHAIR COCHRAN: Yeah, go ahead, Director.

MR. GINOZA: So what typically happens with these types of facilities is and in order to get financing, they have to make sure that they have a dedicated waste stream that they can count on. So typically it's either one of two ways that, that can occur. One is what they call a put-or-pay type agreement where the municipality guarantees a certain tonnage and if there's a shortage in that respect then the municipality would pay to make up that shortage. Another way is to do what is called flow control where it's not effective in large municipalities where there are variety of options because you're basically monopolizing things, but if you look at how Maui is and how basically Hawaii is because of our island communities, we effectively have flow control where we. . .flow control is not about who collects it. It's who then gets that trash or landfill and because the County of Maui has the only landfills, effectively we have flow control where all the private vendors or private haulers have to bring the waste to us because there is no alternative. And so, effectively there's flow control that people have to bring it to us, but in order to get financing a lot of times it's a lot better for the private developers to have that guarantee. Effectively we have it. We have a kind of a de facto flow control, but they want it kind of set in stone. And so that is kind of an important one because if we don't have flow control then we're only able to guarantee what is collected through our residential household trash collection. And so which is, you know, a third or quarter of the waste stream. So we could guarantee that, but if we have flow control we could guarantee a lot bigger amount. And then something. . .

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: You'd have to get some kind of legislation to propose this.

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MR. GINOZA: Definitely. So it would be a change to the County Code. And so that's...I just kind of brought it up that, you know, as we kind of move forward in this...if we move forward, that's something that would be a key component that, you know, if that's something that this body would not contemplate then we'd end up having to guarantee a lower tonnage and then it might not pencil out for somebody to fund this project.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Another area that I was concerned with was the construction waste from demolitions, remodeling, and, you know, we have had private haulers doing that --

MR. GINOZA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: -- and in fact, if you well know the one out here at Maalaea --

MR. GINOZA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: --it's just, I mean, it's capacitized [sic]. So, you know, there's gotta be someplace and I know they're looking Puunene and couple other places. However, if we were to get that as part of. . .because I know when I checked out some of these programs in the mainland also construction waste, even though on a different scale, was taken, sorted, and also created energy. Would that also be a factor we consider?

MR. GINOZA: Construction waste is kind of an interesting input because it depends on what. . . . there's part of the construction waste stream that could be used in this waste conversion project, but there's a lot of it that wouldn't be because construction waste has a lot of inert material such as like the sands, the rocks, the concrete, that has zero value in the waste conversion process. So that's the kind of stuff that would be sorted out in the front end, because what ends up happening is all that material just gets processed and would be in the ash if it went through the process. And so we were. . .we as a Department had been concentrating on the . . have not been concentrating on the C&D side of it because it's been handled by DeCoite at the private landfill that's filling up that has like maybe couple years left as well as, you know, we've been assisting the private developer in Puunene to try to figure out a solution there. And so this project can accommodate that, but a lot of the material will be sorted out. So the woods and such would . . . could be used, but the inerts would just be taken out and landfilled anyway. So we would rather not have that stream, but it could accommodate.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Yeah, that was exactly what I was asking for because that's exactly what's happened when the various facilities I've visited in the mainland did that, you know, the construction materials such as wood and, you know, those were taken out. That's why I said the separation was done. So I wanted to make sure that, that was also. . .and last question. I'll allow others to ask questions. When you talking about no, no, no on curbside and landfill and dropboxes and all that, if we were to do this even with the sorting, you would not encourage us to go continue our recycling programs, because to me that's still a very important part before it even gets to us, if we've taken all of that out. . .people like the HI5, I mean, I was at the fair and there was seniors walking around every day picking up bottles and cans and, I mean, they count

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on that extra money. So what you're saying you're trying to. . .you would eliminate these or you would somehow roll 'em back to the point where it become efficient on both sides?

MR. GINOZA: Yeah...

CHAIR COCHRAN: Go ahead, Chair [sic].

MR. GINOZA: Maybe I miscommunicated. . . I didn't mean to just like abandon everything.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Yeah, yeah.

MR. GINOZA: I was just looking at it from the perspective of, you know, as we invest more money in the programs on the right side of that chart, you know, we kind of look at in our Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan looked at doing waste conversion like a decade or so from now. And so I think that we can have a. . we can do the analysis soon. We can make that decision sooner rather than later and the reason why I put up that chart is if we as a County can decide whether or not to go forward in the middle one and the waste conversion, we can tailor the rest of our activities to be a certain way in addition to that. And so if you look at some of those programs on the right side, I mean, yeah, we still have to have the landfilling, but if you look at some of the other recyclable materials, instead of paying, you know, what we pay on the order of a couple hundred dollars per ton to process it off island, we might be able to utilize that material to generate electricity. So it's not an either/or, it was just more meant to show, hey, why are we just looking at this and ignoring this 800 pound gorilla that could be a solution as well.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Well, the slide kinda. . . the way it said, "no", like it was like you gonna eliminate it. That's. . .

MR. GINOZA: Oh, I meant, yes or no on the waste conversion.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Yeah. So that's why I got concerned and I think when there's a lot of value in what we're doing now and we can continue to enhance and if it's getting more efficient on it I have no problem. To eliminate curbside or dropboxes and those things I would definitely be opposed to that, because I think that's an integral part to a lot of people's life over here. So thank you, Madam Chair, for allowing me to ask the questions. I'll let other ask.

CHAIR COCHRAN: You're welcome. And Mr. Pontanilla.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Thank you, Chairman. Thank you for that presentation. You know, I really like the flow chart in regards to the waste conversion flow stream as well as the future of waste flow chart. You know, Elle and I, we got back. . .oh, we went to Korea and we went to a plant that generated electricity, and basically what we saw there is the waste conversion. . .they burn everything, everything. And then the other one, I kind of compare it like H power, the waste conversion flow stream and, you know, seeing the two side by side, one,

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you gonna require a lot of waste. I look at H-Power, you know, they building another what 30 megawatts or 20 megawatts.

MR. GINOZA: It's almost another 1,000 tons per day.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Yeah. So, you know, for them to achieve that 30 percent reduction in fossil fuel, you know, that's a big area that they need to rely on, yeah, fuel wind generation, fuel...solar energy, so I look at Oahu H-Power as the means for them to reach that goal, but again, you know, how much waste it's gonna take, and one of the things that we talked about is that one time we were thinking about. . .they were thinking about maybe picking up the waste from this island or Kauai or the Big Island to supplement what they have.

MR. GINOZA: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: But again, you know, it's cost that is involved and, you know, here we are trying to do our own. And when you talk about the waste conversion or waste-to-energy conversion, what kind megawatts you looking at in regards to the production of, you know, a plant or how much can they produce megawatt wise and what tonnage are we looking at?

CHAIR COCHRAN: Go ahead, Chair. . . Director.

MR. GINOZA: As I mentioned in the last meeting, we did a request for qualification process to just kind of get an idea of, you know, is anybody interested. What I didn't want was to just do like, you know, mainland. . have mainland studies done and nobody's interested here. And we had quite a bit of interest as far as, you know, getting a project here and it was on the order of between, I would say 10 to 12 megawatt would be how much it would be. You know, you looking at our current waste stream is on the order of 450 tons. Honolulu has. . I think their capacity is like 2,000 tons and they added that third boiler which takes it up closer to 3,000 and so they do have additional capacity, but we did explore and we did have discussion with the City and County Honolulu about, you know, can we just ship it to them if they have capacity. But it turns out that it would be a lot more expensive for us when you incorporate their shipping and such that we haven't explored it much further than a few recent inquiries. As far as Honolulu's plan, you're right that they basically burn it. So the first two phases they do what is called RDF burning. So what I mentioned in the slide, you take the municipal solid waste, shred it to a certain size, and then burn it. The third boiler that just came on line this year is just a mass burn. They just --

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Burns everything.

MR. GINOZA: --burn everything. And so as far as the economics for that kind of thing, usually on the order of 1,000 tons per day, I think, makes it. . .at least based on my research, makes it cost effective as a mass burn alternative or option. And being that we're on the order of 450, 500 tons per day, I don't think that incineration will be the option that comes out the best just based

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on. . .it's too low of a scale. You know, until we get the proposals in, you know, we'll see, but the way we've structured it is that we know what our current tip is and, you know, for somebody to come in at a lot more. . .so it's \$71 a ton now. If somebody comes in saying, we want the energy revenue, the recycling revenue, and we want to charge a tip of 150, then I don't think any of us here would contemplate that very far, right? And so my hope is that. . .and just based on the indications from the RFQ that we can reduce the cost of our tip, we can get renewable energy, firm renewable energy from it and, you know, prevent the or minimize the landfilling we do and reduce the importation of fossil fuels. And because of the scrutiny that the decades-old mass burn plants has gotten, you know, in years past, you know, these plant developers are very cognizant and very aware that emissions profiles has to be low and it's proven, you know, throughout the world that emissions are quite low.

- COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Thank you for that response. You know the waste conversion project and you talk about having a developer come in here or a company coming in here and they develop a waste-to-energy plant. So some of the things that I guess you guys talk about, you know, what you just mentioned, the tipping fees, how much trash we going get on a daily basis. So I like that idea, you know, the outlay of the County's financing is hardly any, but the thing is you gotta guarantee them for 20 years.
- MR. GINOZA: Yes. Basically they want to define revenue streams so they don't want us to say, okay, okay, and then next year go with somebody else. But it's something that ultimately if we can secure a good price then why not do it for 20 years and just to get the financing done.
- COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Good. And one last question, you know, regarding the MRF, again, you know, I gone to HCPO and we've visited a plant on Oahu and I looked at the plant and they so labor intensive and so, I guess, environmentally not friendly because of all the things that going on, so I don't know who's going to create a MRF over here or is there one on Maui that already in operation or do we ship our, you know, our recyclables out to Oahu?

MR. GINOZA: So right, right. . .

CHAIR COCHRAN: Go ahead.

MR. GINOZA: Right now we're right in the middle of trying to do a processing contract for those recyclable materials. There are two providers on island that have MRF materials recovery capability, but typically what happens is...so there's mix recyclables from the curbside or the dropbox material that is at MCC and such that is source separated, but there's some contamination that they have to take out. Once it's processed or, you know, separated and bailed, it's then shipped largely to China. That's where the market is in order to get value from this recyclable material. Typically I think just the glass gets shipped to the Northwestern U.S., but the main market for recyclable material is China.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: China.

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MR. GINOZA: And so the County pays on the order of \$200 or so a ton to ship the. . . to process and ship or haul from like dropboxes, process, and ship to China to or the Northwest, you know, as a diversion measure. So it's looking at paying 200 something versus trying to use it on island. That's kind of the analysis that I hope to present to you guys in the beginning of the year is, okay, I mean there are pros and cons to every side, but I just want the options available as we try to contemplate what to do going forward.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Last question, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Go ahead, Mr. Pontanilla.

- COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: We had visited that one MRF on Oahu and they had indicated that they have a contract with Maui County. Do we have any contract with any of the recyclable companies on Oahu?
- MR. GINOZA: Not currently. They...one of the vendors was part of a bid...I mean, part of a proposal but it's not set yet. So there is one.. the provider that uses, that City and County of Honolulu uses...was that one dirty 'cause that one is an automated one so it's not that labor intensive. The one's on Maui would be a quite labor intensive because there's typically on like the automated MRFs they have like these magnets, they have these like.. they use eddy currents to separate things. And so it's...you need the tonnage in order to make that capital investment work. And because we're at such a fledgling state for our curbside program, I don't think anybody would be willing, the County included, to invest in that type of automation. And so the material recovering facilities on Maui would be a hand sort versus the Honolulu one is an automated system.
- COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Automated with people, you know, segregating the materials, yeah.
- MR. GINOZA: Yeah, and so we have not contracted with the Honolulu vendor at this...we're not contracted at this time.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Okay. Good. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay. You're welcome. And Mr. Couch.

- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Mr. Ginoza. You answered one of Member Pontanilla's questions that generated another question, I think. What's happening to the curbside materials now? You're doing all the curbside and you said that there's a couple places that have the capability to do a MRF, but are they actually doing the MRF or what's...how's that stuff being sorted now?
- MR. GINOZA: So we have an existing contract that needs to be renewed. Basically we just went out to bid and we're just in the process of contract, you know, getting that contract done. But in the

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interim, the current vendor just does that sort and only one vendor does it. So with the curbside. . .the curbside material comes in, they, you know, put it in their MRF and they do the sort and then they process the material. So it is done by one vendor currently and we're currently trying to get the contract done for the continuation of that processing.

- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. And you mentioned it cost around \$200 a ton for us to collect and distribute and ship off to China. Do we get anything back when we sell it. . .I mean, are we selling it to China or are we just giving it to them?
- MR. GINOZA: So basically we paying a processor to handle everything from either the mixed recyclables or the dropbox material and they. . . and that's what this contract is about. The processing contract is they look at whatever revenue they could get from the County, how much it cost to ship to wherever the market is, and how much revenue they get on the back end from China or the Northwest or wherever. So they look at the revenues being the County processing money and the end user or the broker on the back end and then the cost being the cost to ship, the cost to process, and so forth. And so right now, it's coming out that the County net pays on the order of 200 plus a ton. . .depending, I mean, with this new contract it may be 250 a ton in order to process this. So there is a net cost that I as a member of the public did not know until I took this job that I thought by me going to MCC to drop off my cardboard and everything, the County was making money by being able to process this. I was unaware that the County actually paid quite a bit in order to get it done. 'Cause I figured that there was value in the material. There is value but when you factor in the cost to separate, the cost to ship, there is. . .it comes out not so valuable.
- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. The last question I have at least unless you bring up more. You talked about on slide number 11 with the waste conversion project, talk about County with least parcel of land that the Central Maui Landfill for the facility. What about the. . .I guess for a number of years now there's been across the street a MECO. . .I think it's a MECO --

MR. GINOZA: Yeah.

- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: --location for a waste conversion...waste-to-energy conversion facility. Are we working with them on that or are they gonna be one of the ones that may do the RFP? I was just curious what's going on over there 'cause that's a lot of...that was a lot of controversy as well.
- MR. GINOZA: I just met with representatives from. . I've been meeting with representatives from MECO regarding the status of our project and how it would dovetail with their project. They. . I think it's up to anything above like 3 kilo. . . 3 megawatts, they need to do a RFP for any kind of power that they take, and so they are currently developing an RFP for that site to get an additional 25 to 50 megawatts of renewable, firm renewable power. So they have that Waena site available that's across Pulehu Road from our landfill that they will make available for this firm renewable power. And so what I had discussed with them is can we, you know, work out something where we have a renewable firm waste stream, I mean, you know, project that we

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could bring about that, you know, I'd like to just kind of work together to that end. But they said because of the PUC process, we would just have to be a bidder in the use of that site and the use of that or their use of the power. And so what makes it difficult is whether or not they'll take our power, you know, on the order of 10 to 15 megawatts when they're on. . .they're going to get other power from this other RFP. So we're trying to figure out a way to make it all work, but that's why I don't know if our end product will be electricity at the end of the day because it depends if they want it or not.

- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So they could potentially be competing with us for the waste if they wanted to do a waste-to-energy facility as well?
- MR. GINOZA: No, well, they wouldn't compete with us. They would hold the cards in that they wouldn't allow us to connect and sell them power if they don't need it. . .if we don't get their RFP for their 25 megawatts of renewable power. So that's where the County is kind of in a state of. . .that's one of the big unknowns for me. That's why I'd initially tried to finish the RFP last month but then as we further discussed with MECO, I was concerned about how much of a known or how much of an unknown it is that a developer would be able to sell whatever power that's produced to MECO. And that's where I've been struggling with that, that I don't wanna go along the lines of, oh, yeah, they'll take all of our power and then they don't and then our projects kind of dead in the water. So I'm trying to get a better grasp of what our options are as far as selling power to MECO or some other alternative because of this separate process. . .this parallel process that they're currently engaged in.
- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Is that something that they can. . . they choose to do or are they required by the PUC because it sounds like. . . I mean, are they being cooperative or not?
- MR. GINOZA: They meet with me. Basically they're required to go through a RFP process for this kind of things. For us, one option is to request a waiver from the PUC, Public Utilities Commission, to basically be able to negotiate with MECO directly, which is one option that we're contemplating is, you know, we don't know when they'll get this renewable energy RFP done. You know, I mean, and we don't want to be, you know, five years from now and we're just waiting on our project because they're still trying to figure out theirs. And that's where, you know, we meet periodically to say, hey, are you guys almost there or, you know, how can we work together, and it's something that we still aren't there as far as finalizing how we would do that end user side of it. So it's kind of a chicken or the egg, where we stand as a County that we cannot negotiate with a final purchase agreement would be because we don't know what our project is, and yet how do you get a project without knowing somebody will take that energy and that would be a revenue stream. And that's been the. . honestly, the biggest complication for me is I don't want to mislead people to think that, oh, yeah, there's a market for, you know, there is a definitive revenue stream for you on the back end when there may not be. And yet, I cannot be definitive on the front end with MECO on things so that's where it's tricky.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Couch and Director. Yes, Chair Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Madam Chair. Young Mr. Ginoza, thank you very much and I really am encouraged by listening to the discussion. You know, I think we've just gotten to the point where we no longer can just wait anymore. I think we've gotten to the point where we've got to start pushing ourselves and taking a look at new challenges, new resources, and new opportunities. And I think, you know, because we're real cognizant of cost factors, yeah, especially in new creations of landfills and then the most obvious one, the closure of landfills. You know, it's really astronomical for us. So the longer we can expand the life of a landfill by looking at these options, I think we're better off. So I'm really encouraged that listening in the direction we're going. Unfortunately, I will not be one who will be participating in the discussions in February, so I'm really encouraged and I also would like to make a little plea that while we're focusing in on Maui island because this is where the population is, you also have Lanai and Molokai and those landfills, you know, need to be addressed as well, yeah. On Molokai we have Mount Opala and we cannot continue in that direction for too long. But I'm very encouraged. . . it's rather exciting at this point to look at new technologies. One question however, in your RFP process, are you aware of a potential developer that may have interest in developing such an operation or a plant here?

CHAIR COCHRAN: Go ahead, Director.

MR. GINOZA: Honestly, I think we'll probably have 50 proposals.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Wow.

MR. GINOZA: Basically, you know, when we did the RFQ, we got around, I don't know, 60, 70, maybe 70 people inquire about it and we got 25 submittals. A lot of the people who didn't submit asked, will they be penalized if they don't submit anything, because they didn't wanna show their cards at such an early stage. So I think there will be dozens of proposals and I, every week, get multiple calls about, you know, when is it coming out because we're ready. And just if you don't mind, as a follow-up to your comment as far as the neighbor islands or the other two islands in our County, yeah, what we're exploring right now is because of the cost to run the landfills and because of space issues, we're looking at, you know, should we develop, you know, as the landfills fill up, should we develop another landfill or should be convert it to a transfer station and ship the trash either here or to Oahu and look at opportunities to try to better the situation even in our other islands. And we also looked at doing a smaller waste conversion site. The problem is with the low tonnage in those areas, it wouldn't be such that the County wouldn't have to pay anything. And so that's something that, you know, if there is interest from the...you folks, from the policy side, we can explore further what it will take to get a smaller waste conversion site. I mean, you know, they do have packaged units that are used like by the Navy and by the military to try to manage their waste, you know, in combat areas. So there are solutions. It's just not cost effective to the point where it will pay for itself like how it might be on Maui and it likely will be on Maui. So that's kind of the areas we're kind of looking is maybe it might be better to containerize and ship off the waste to areas that could use it for energy or

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other alternatives. So we. . .it still. . .it is top of mind for us and, you know, if you wanna discuss further, we can.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you, Chair Mateo. Members, any further questions or discussion for Mr. Ginoza? Mr. Carroll, no? Okay. Yeah, thank you, Mr. Ginoza, for the update. And I don't know how this would work here but I do recall in Korea where Mr. Pontanilla and myself had visited, people were purchasing different color coded trash bags so blue might've been strictly just for paper and orange was strictly just for plastics or, I mean, and so you pay. . .and that was how they put money back into the whole trash program per se, and I guess it teaches one to not to create so much trash 'cause the bag only holds so much of that particular waste. And I just thought kinda interesting, didn't really get the full-on details of that but that was one way that they were able to put money back into a type of program so. . .

MR. GINOZA: What one. . .

CHAIR COCHRAN: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. GINOZA: One dynamic that we don't really have on Maui that you see like in the mainland and across the world, is people are willing to pay for their, quite steeply, trash disposal or waste disposal. And that's where like, you know, you see other municipalities where they charge, you know, \$50 a month for their waste collection, and there is a. . because there's kind of this cost factor that encourages them to do other things, whereas here it's just not in our mentality yet that we're trying to kind of change.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Well, good. I thank you for your efforts, yeah, with that. Mr. Pontanilla.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Thank you. What Member. . . Chairman Cochran had just said that's happening in Korea right now that they purchase the bags, different colored bags for different type of material. Question I have for you though is that I remember way back when, when Molokai Electric was in existence on Molokai that they had turned to. . .not waste-to-energy but more utilizing biofuels. Is there a possibility that Maui Electric on Molokai can convert some of that waste-to-energy?

MR. GINOZA: There is. . .there are processes to either convert to a biofuel or to either burn or further process to make a synthetic gas to generate electricity that could be utilized. It's just a matter of it won't be free to us, you know, and that's where like I was mentioning earlier, you know, the military has these types of facilities where, you know, it's quite small because it's only for a troop or whatever, that could be used to generate either a electricity or a biofuel. It's just a matter of there would be an investment required on the County's part. So, I mean, we are exploring that to try to quantify what it would take to do something like that where, you know, we could utilize this waste stream as a resource rather than just having a Mount Opala.

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COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Yeah.

Mr. GINOZA: You know, so it's not that we necessarily have to have it free, but I want to get a better handle of what the cost would be before kind of discussing it with you further. I just knew that with the kind of tonnage we have at Central Maui Landfill, it's something that it could be free. Well, it could be financed through tip fee and revenue from renewable energy. And so that's kind of the pilot for Maui County, but, you know, we're also looking at the neighbor islands as well.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Good. Yeah, I thought I'd bring it up because for Maui County, Molokai Electric actually tried to go biofuel way back when and the guy just got burnt out because new technology, yeah. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you. Yes, Mr. Victorino.

VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Thank you, Madam Chair and Mr. Ginoza. My colleagues asked many very thoughtful questions as far as what this whole process, and I know it is a process right now and I hope some of us will be back here next year to see the process come to fruition. However, I guess the bottom line in all of this is I think I've been trying to...the message that I think I hear, not only from you but from our energy people and all that, is really we need to look at some way of disposing of solid waste and if we create energy as a byproduct, that's good. But that's not the main reason we're doing this, it's because we have a finite amount of land. And even if it's 50 years from now, 100 years from now, if all of a sudden...not all of a sudden, if all...we wait 'til...like Mr. Pontanilla said, wait 'til a point where now we gotta start shipping refuse off the island, that's an environmental nightmare just waiting to happen. And I know it's done, but I'm not wanting us to be the one to be doing it. And secondly, by doing this, by burning, creating energy whichever way you want to create it, as the main part of the project is really the reduction of what we're going to put in the landfill. And I think, if I'm not mistaken, the ash amounts to about less than 10 percent after everything is said and done from what that actually goes in. So if you send a ton of refuse, by the time you get down to that same ton as ash, it's like less than 10 percent, maybe even less than that. I remember the guys going over it. I visited a number of plants both on the mainland, and the east coast and west coast, and all of them have different varieties. No one ever burnt everything like Korea and that's one of the things that they all oppose is burning everything. They like the idea of sorting and keeping what is useable for renewable purposes, yeah. But the. . .so am I correct in the statement that I think that's what we're looking, focusing on is to reduce the need for landfill in the future as being the number one part, and the energy would be the methodology to help pay for all of that.

MR. GINOZA: Yeah, definitely we're looking at it being a paradigm shift from waste disposal to utilizing it as a resource which the primary positive benefit is we're not filling our land with opala and having Mount Opalas all over the place. And that the energy side of it just helps make it work financially. So, yeah, I mean, the fundamental goal is to. . .is waste management and, you know, as we try to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, hey, that's an added plus.

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VICE-CHAIR VICTORINO: Yeah, very good. And the other part is the ash itself, Madam Chair, I've been reading and I've been looking into the utilization for material I asked can be used not only for landfills, I mean, for fill but also creating building material off of the ash. So there's a number of things that are down the pipe, if we don't start walking towards that goal then we will be behind the eight ball when those different methodologies become available to us, those different processes that we may be looking. . .catch up instead of being ready to utilize it. So I want to commend the Department, Madam Chair, for their hard work. I think all of us agree, this is the direction we want to go. How we get there at this point, we're gonna wait for your advice and your presentation next year. But I think I agree that this is something all of us can embrace and it's all part of that Solid Waste Integrated Plan that we put together about six years ago. I think this is all just culminating to where the public now can see we are moving to get efficient, to create energy. I mean, it's a win/win in every direction, Madam Chair. So thank you for letting the Department come and give us this update. I think this is very awesome. Not only for us but for the public in general. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Right. Thank you, Vice-Chair of the Committee, Mr. Victorino. So, yes, Mr. Ginoza, thank you for your time and efforts and also how this body mentioned, you know, change in County Codes, also somehow if we can assist in the whole PUC or MECO discussion here, Gladys Baisa and myself are with. . .is with IRP, the Integrated Resource Management Plan, going through discussion with Kal Kobayashi and Doug McLeod also. So it's been definitely a learning experience in these kind of things that are all integrated and work hand-in-hand with each other. So definitely reach out to us when needed. But lastly, not to go off topic, I was looking at your slide number three in your graph in regards to the curbside recycling and the items that have been collected and the different percentages and weight tonnage and things.

MR. GINOZA: Okay. Yes?

CHAIR COCHRAN: So I'm, again, wondering about the glass aspect of all this 'cause I know you don't currently pick that up, right?

MR. GINOZA: Yeah, we don't currently pick up glass and so it's just classified under rubbish.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Oh, okay.

MR. GINOZA: So it would just be in that last line item under rubbish because we don't separate it out. We consider it a contamination. . .a source of contamination. When they do have full glass bottles. . .you can imagine there's a lot of crushed glass. But when they do have full ones that's HI5, they can take those out to get their redemption. But if you look at like, you know, like the cardboard, the newspaper, the super mix, like if there's glass in there then on the downstream end the brokers give a lot less money for the product as well as a lot of times they turn it away if there is too much contamination. So that's why we excluded glass because by the time it gets to the processor from either the dropboxes or from our collection, you know, people dumping it in a

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bin and the bin gets dumped into the truck and the truck unloaded onto the ground, a lot of times, you know, you just have shards of glass and, you know, the. . .what I found quite interesting is. . .I'll ask a rhetorical question. In the Northwest, how much do you think we get per ton of glass? Not we but the processor per ton a glass. I mean, you can imagine all that effort that a municipality goes through to get glass. They get like under 20 bucks a ton for the glass. So, you know, because if you think about it, it's essentially sand, right, and so that's kind of where it's unfortunate that recyclers don't want the glass and won't pay a lot for it but that's just the state of the industry. And so while, you know, we wouldn't just stop collecting it because, you know, we want to divert it from the landfill, it is something that is not self-sufficient in the operation.

- CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you. Am I correct to say that there is a company though in the Maui Meadows, in the Kihei where this curbside pile-up project is occurring who originally was picking up, you know, curbside but is definitely interested in doing the glass portion of all this right now?
- MR. GINOZA: Yes, and I hope that by the next meeting we'll kind of have that scenario for you kind of more fully developed as well is that, you know, based on the cost to the County for implementation versus, you know, the. . .what the private vendor can do it for, I mean, you know that's just another option for us to consider and that's kind of where, you know, I would be remiss to not have that available to you. And so I don't have it fully developed now but that's a good point that we will have that for you.
- CHAIR COCHRAN: Great. Well, thank you, Director, for your efforts once again. Members, any further discussion or questions? Yes, Mr. Pontanilla.
- COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: I don't know if, you know, in this meeting setting would be good to find out and probably, you know, like you mentioned having MECO come over here to see how we gonna achieve that 30 percent reduction utilizing fossil fuel. Here we are as a County trying to do that...be part of it and who else can be partners trying to achieve that 30 percent.
- CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay. Great. Thank you, Mr. Pontanilla. We'll take note of that, Mr. Jensen. Members, further discussion or anything? Seeing none, at this point, Members, without objection, I shall defer this item.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you and I wanna just thank everyone for. . .Staff and all Members included and Administration for being here, but lastly, Mr. Hopper did you have anything to add or any discussion?

MR. HOPPER: No.

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CHAIR COCHRAN: No. Okay. I just wanted to keep you. . .you know, included here and with that, Members, we are. . .this meeting is now adjourned. . . .(gavel). . .

Transcribed by: Michelle Balala

ADJOURN: 10:44 a.m.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

ELLE COCHRAN, Chair

Infrastructure Management Committee

im:min:121001:mb

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CERTIFICATE

I, Michelle Balala, hereby certify that the foregoing represents to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 22nd day of October, 2012, in Kahului, Hawaii.

Michelle Balala

Michelle Balala